

-2-

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1 1. (Canceled)

1 2. (Currently Amended) A side impact air bag curtain apparatus comprising:
2 an inflatable air bag adapted to be installed within a vehicle in a stowed condition
3 proximate a roof rail of a vehicle and when inflated expands from the stowed condition
4 to a deployed condition generally in front of an adjacent side of the vehicle;
5 the air bag including at least one movable air bag anchor at an end of the air bag;
6 and
7 a force-directing member or guide fixedly mounted at a determinable orientation
8 within the vehicle and adapted to slidingly receive and support the movable air bag
9 anchor, wherein upon inflation of the air bag, the air bag moves to the deployed
10 condition causing the movable anchor to slide down the force-directing member or
11 guide so that upon inflation of the air bag the movable anchor is self located in or near a
12 center of the force-directing member or guide resisting any tendency of the curtain to
13 move or be moved upwardly;
14 wherein the force-directing member or guide includes an element having a single
15 bend, wherein that single bend forms an apex, the element mounted such that the apex
16 tends to cause the movable air bag anchor to self-center at the apex, while not being
17 locked to the element.

1 3. (Withdrawn) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the force-directing
2 member includes a positive locking portion.

1 4. (Currently amended) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the force-directing
2 member or guide includes an apex directed away from the air bag.

Serial No. 10/021,470

-3-

1 5. (Withdrawn) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the force-directing
2 member includes a shaped channel in an adjacent vehicle pillar.

1 6. (Previously presented) A side impact air bag curtain apparatus comprising:
2 an inflatable air bag adapted to be installed within a vehicle in a stowed condition
3 proximate a roof rail of a vehicle and when inflated expands from the stowed condition
4 to a deployed condition generally in front of an adjacent side of the vehicle;
5 the air bag including at least one movable air bag anchor at an end of the air bag;
6 and
7 a force-directing member or guide fixedly mounted to the vehicle adjacent one
8 side of the deployed air bag, and adapted to slidably receive and support the movable
9 air bag anchor, comprising an arcuate bar configured with only a single bend in the bar,
10 the single bend forming an apex, facing the one side of the deployed air bag wherein
11 upon inflation of the air bag, the air bag moves to the deployed condition causing the
12 movable anchor to slide down the bar so that upon inflation of the air bag the movable
13 anchor is self located within the apex of the bar.

1 7. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes
2 ends which respectively extend angularly away from the apex.

1 8. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes a
2 first portion mounted vertically in the vehicle and a second portion which extends
3 angularly therefrom.

1 9. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes a
2 first portion mounted horizontally in the vehicle and a second portion which extends
3 angularly therefrom and away from the one side of the air bag.

1 10. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 6 wherein the bar includes a
2 first portion and a second portion which extend outwardly from the apex and wherein
3 the first and second portions are each skew mounted relative to the vehicle.

Serial No. 10/021,470

-4-

11. (Canceled)

- 1 12. (Previously presented) The system as defined in Claim 2 wherein the element is
- 2 a rod.

Serial No. 10/021,470